

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

What is claimed is:

1. (Currently Amended) A synthetic apolipoprotein-E mimicking polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence

X-Y-Arg-Arg-Y-Y-X-X-Y-Y-Arg-Y-Y-Arg (SEQ ID NO: 210)

wherein X is glycine, threonine, serine or alanine,

wherein Y is ~~a hydrophobic amino acid~~ selected from the group consisting of phenylalanine, tyrosine, leucine, isoleucine, valine, and tryptophan,

wherein the polypeptide comprises an acetyl group at the N-terminus and an amide group at the C-terminus,

wherein the polypeptide is capable of forming an amphipathic  $\alpha$  helical structure, and wherein the polypeptide is also capable of binding lipoproteins.

2. (Canceled)
3. (Previously Presented) The polypeptide of claim 1, wherein the polypeptide comprises from at least 14 amino acids to 18 amino acids in length.
4. (Canceled)
5. (Original) The polypeptide of claim 1, wherein the polypeptide comprises the sequence Gly-Ile-Arg-Arg-Phe-Leu-Gly-Ser-Ile-Trp-Arg-Phe-Ile-Arg-Ala-Phe-Tyr-Gly (SEQ ID NO:5).
6. (Original) The polypeptide of claim 1, which is a recombinant polypeptide.

7. (Canceled)
8. (Canceled)
9. (Canceled)
10. (Canceled)
11. (Canceled)
12. (Canceled)
13. (Canceled)
14. (Original) The polypeptide of claim 1, wherein the polypeptide enhances binding of low-density lipoprotein (LDL) or very low density lipoprotein (VLDL) to a cell.
15. (Original) The polypeptide of claim 1, wherein the polypeptide enhances degradation of low-density lipoprotein (LDL) or very low density lipoprotein (VLDL) by a cell.
16. (Previously Presented) A composition comprising the polypeptide of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
17. (Original) The composition of claim 16, wherein the carrier comprises dimyristoylphosphatidyl (DMPC), phosphate buffered saline or a multivesicular liposome.
18. (Canceled)
19. (Canceled)
20. (Canceled)
21. (Canceled)
22. (Canceled)
23. (Canceled)

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- 24. (Canceled)
- 25. (Canceled)
- 26. (Canceled)
- 27. (Canceled)
- 28. (Canceled)
- 29. (Canceled)
- 30. (Canceled)
- 31. (Canceled)
- 32. (Canceled)
- 33. (Canceled)
- 34. (Canceled)